



Among the Gallaudet community authors and editors of books published during 1993 who were present at a May 3 reception held in their honor were (from left): Dr. Harriet Kaplan, Dr. John Van Cleve, Dr. David Penna, Dr. Loana Kane, and Bernard Bragg. The event was sponsored by the Office of the Vice President for Academic Affairs.

## NCBI participants discuss training, begin plans for campus workshop

About 14 people, including four workshop leaders, discussed their experiences as participants in Gallaudet University's first on-campus National Coalition Building Institute (NCBI) training April 28 in Chapel Hall. They also began planning how to expand the training they received at the March workshop to the entire campus community. About an additional 10 of the 60 people who attended the initial campus workshop also expressed interest in becoming NCBI leaders but were unable to attend this follow-up meeting.

An international organization based in Washington, D.C., NCBI trains leaders to educate people of all backgrounds to reduce prejudice, resolve conflicts between groups, and build coalitions. Its goal is to end the mistreatment of every group whether that mistreatment stems from nationality, race, class, job, gender, religion, sexual orientation, age, physical ability, or life circumstance.

In all, about 20 people will begin training this summer to become NCBI workshop leaders at Gallaudet. In the fall, they will begin working to increase the campus community's level of comfort with and respect for diversity through one-day workshops and their daily jobs.

"I think this work is really important," said Linda Jordan, one of six people from Gallaudet who took training at NCBI headquarters in D.C. and one of a Gallaudet team that will train campus leaders for the program. "What's fascinating to me is that I see the model really does work. I see

a real change in people after going through the model."

According to K.P. Perkins, director of Multicultural Student Programs, who will coordinate the training schedule and who also has had training at NCBI headquarters, the model works to reduce prejudice by helping people get in touch with stereotypes they may hold about others and to work through them. It then teaches participants concrete day-to-day leadership skills and actions for reducing prejudice.

Groundskeeper Chris Woods, who has volunteered to become an NCBI campus leader, also affirmed the model's success. "What I liked most about the three-day workshop was getting to know things that are bothering other people and getting to express some of the things that are bothering me," he said. "I've seen a big difference just with the three-day workshop."

Both leaders and participants will come from all aspects of the University community, including students, trades people, support staff, faculty, and administrators. Of those training to be campus NCBI leaders, about half are deaf and half are hearing.

Leader-trainees will be reviewing NCBI policies, rules, and models and will be practicing as well as discussing their leadership roles before actually leading workshops, said Perkins. "We are learning to reduce prejudice and to appreciate diversity, but we also are already building bridges as a team, developing trust and support for one another," she said.

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## Campus branch of Riggs bank robbed

Three men made off with an estimated \$20,000 May 10 in an early morning robbery of the Gallaudet branch of Riggs National Bank, located in the lower level of Ely Center, according to Muriel Strassler, director of Gallaudet's Office of Public Relations. None of the four bank employees who were present were reported injured in the 8:20 a.m. robbery, which took place 40 minutes before the bank opened for business.

Officers from the Special Robbery Unit of Washington, D.C.'s Fifth District Police Headquarters responded

to the incident. The Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) and Riggs security officers were also called to the robbery scene.

Following the incident, Riggs planned to post security guards at the bank for the remainder of last week. At press time, future plans by Riggs for increased security at the bank were not available.

The robbery is under investigation by D.C. police and the FBI. Developments in the investigation may be forthcoming in a future issue of *On the Green*.

## Dinner honors Gallaudet volunteers

The volunteers who contribute their time, experience, and caring to Gallaudet were recognized at an appreciation dinner May 6 at the Model Secondary School for the Deaf. The volunteers then attended a production of MSSD's spring play, "Tabloids."

Cynthia Olson, coordinator of the University's Volunteer Programs, presented the following awards at the dinner:

- **Volunteer of the Year**—to May Curtis ('33), who has volunteered her services to the University for the past 13 years. Curtis works in the Development Office and is responsible for sending acknowledgments of gifts to the University's donors and also for entering this information into the Development Office's computer system. A contingent of Development Office staff members, wearing May Curtis Fan Club buttons, attended the dinner to applaud this award.

- **Volunteer Rookie of the Year Award**—to Catherine Sullivan, a flight attendant with United Airlines, who has been working for the past year as a volunteer with MSSD's

Learning Resource Center (library).

Sullivan could not be present to accept her award.

- **Volunteer Special Projects**—to Richard Toftness, a part-time statistician for the U.S. government. He has been working at Gallaudet's Northwest Campus in its Learning Resource Center and has developed a special manual for teaching math skills to deaf students. His supervisor is Francisco Martinez, coordinator of the English Language Institute (ELI), who shared plans to have the newly developed manual printed for use by future prep and ELI students.

According to Olson, the number of individuals volunteering their time at Gallaudet has been relatively constant—about 65—for several years. About one-third of the group are University alumni.

The volunteers are assigned to approximately 20 different departments on campus. During the past year, they have donated more than 8,000 hours of service to Gallaudet, which, if they were reimbursed, would be worth approximately \$96,000.



May Curtis (left), named Volunteer of the Year at a May 6 appreciation dinner for Gallaudet volunteers, poses with Loraine DiPietro (center), director of the National Information Center on Deafness, and Cynthia Olson, coordinator of Volunteer Programs, a unit of NICD.



